

Docket JP920000426US1

Appl. No.: 09/892,147
Filed: June 26, 2001

21. (currently amended) A method for offering hosting services, comprising the steps of:

a) hosting a plurality of applications on a host computer system at a data center, wherein hosting the applications includes:

executing an application for a first shopping process on the data center host computer system, the first shopping process being accessible to shoppers by Internet communications wherein the first shopping process performs the step of:

a first hosting service step, the first hosting service step including:

communicating with a first integration process and a first resource planning process via Internet communications to transact first sales, wherein the first resource planning process is a process of a first resource planning application on a host computer system located remotely from the data center and the first integration process is a process of a first integration application on a host computer system located remotely from the data center;

executing an application for a second resource planning process on the data center host computer system, wherein the second resource planning process performs the step of:

a second hosting service step, the second hosting service step including:

communicating with a production process via Internet or dedicated link communications, wherein the production process is a process of a second production application on a host computer located remotely from the data center;

and

executing an application for a second integration process on the data center host computer system, wherein the second integration process performs the steps of:

a third hosting service step, the third hosting service step including:

coupling communications between the first shopping process and the second resource planning process to transact second sales;

a fourth hosting service step, the fourth hosting service step including:

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coupling communications between the second resource planning process and a second shopping process, wherein the second shopping process is a process of a second shopping application accessible to shoppers by Internet communications on a host computer located remotely from the data center, the communications between the second resource planning process and the second shopping process being Internet communications to transact third sales;

a fifth hosting service step, the fifth hosting service step including:

coupling communications between the first shopping process and a third resource planning process to transact fourth sales, wherein the third resource planning process is a process of a third resource planning application on a host computer located remotely from the data center;

and

a sixth hosting service step, the sixth hosting service step including:

coupling communications between a certain process and a third shopping process, wherein the third shopping process is a process of a third shopping application accessible to shoppers by Internet communications on a host computer located remotely from the data center and the certain process is a process of a certain application on a host computer located remotely from the data center;

and

b) offering to customers a selection of hosting services, wherein the customers may select for the host computer system to perform a hosting service selected from among one or more of the first, second third, fourth, fifth and sixth hosting service steps.

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22. (currently amended) A hosting system comprising:

a host computer system at a data center hosting a plurality of applications, the applications including:

a first application stored on the hosting system and operable as a first shopping process executing on the host computer system, the first shopping process being accessible to shoppers by Internet communications, the first shopping process further being operable to perform a first hosting service step, wherein the first hosting service step includes:

communicating with a first integration process and a first resource planning process via Internet communications to transact first sales, wherein the first resource planning process is a process of a first resource planning application on a host computer system located remotely from the data center and the first integration process is a process of a first integration application on a host computer system located remotely from the data center;

a second application stored on the hosting system and operable as a second resource planning process executing on the host computer system, the second resource planning process further being operable to perform a second hosting service step, wherein the second hosting service step includes:

communicating with a production process via Internet or dedicated link communications, wherein the production process is a process of a second production application on a host computer located remotely from the data center;
and

a third application stored on the hosting system and operable as a second integration process executing on the host computer system, the second integration process further being operable to perform a number of hosting service steps including:

a third hosting service step including:

coupling communications between the first shopping process and the second resource planning process to transact second sales;

a fourth hosting service step including:

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coupling communications between the second resource planning process and a second shopping process, wherein the second shopping process is a process of a second shopping application accessible to shoppers by Internet communications on a host computer located remotely from the data center, the communications between the second resource planning process and the second shopping process being Internet communications to transact third sales;

a fifth hosting service step including:

coupling communications between the first shopping process and a third resource planning process to transact fourth sales, wherein the third resource planning process is a process of a third resource planning application on a host computer located remotely from the data center;

and

a sixth hosting service step including:

coupling communications between a certain process and a third shopping process, wherein the third shopping process is a process of a third shopping application accessible to shoppers by Internet communications on a host computer located remotely from the data center and the certain process is a process of a certain application on a host computer located remotely from the data center;

wherein the host computer system is operable to offer to customers a selection of hosting services, such that the customers may select for the host computer system to perform a hosting service selected from among one or more of the first, second third, fourth, fifth and sixth hosting service steps.